

Report to the Legislative Council

Analysis of **participation rates** at the 2021 Legislative Council elections

July 2021

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Dear President

Report: Analysis of participation rates at the 2021 Legislative Council elections

At its 12 July meeting, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission resolved to provide the Legislative Council with this report, which includes an analysis of the participation rates at the recent Legislative Council elections and a discussion of the factors that likely influenced these rates.

The situation of both Legislative Council periodical elections and House of Assembly election polling days being on Saturday 1 May 2021 meant that for the first time, Legislative Council electors were required to vote at two different parliamentary elections on the same day.

On and following polling day, the Tasmanian Electoral Commission became aware of reports that some Derwent and Windermere electors had attended polling places outside the Legislative Council electoral boundaries (House of Assembly only polling places) and were therefore unable to vote in the Legislative Council election at those polling places. Once all elections were finalised the participation rates at the Legislative Council elections were identified as being around 9% lower than those for the associated House of Assembly divisions.

As a result, the Commission has conducted a detailed analysis to ascertain whether, and to what extent, Legislative Council election participation may have been adversely impacted. This analysis has shown:

- 1 683 (6.3%) Derwent and 1 723 (6.3%) Windermere electors attended a "House of Assembly only" polling place or mobile polling location and therefore voted only at the State election.
- 344 (1.3%) Derwent and 231 (0.8%) Windermere electors used a dual voting service but appear to have only been issued a House of Assembly ballot paper because of staff (administrative) error.

In reviewing the full analysis undertaken, as discussed at the end of the report, the Commission is of the view that it will not challenge the result of the election.

All election statistical summaries, including any additional analysis, are published in the Commission's Parliamentary election report, which would be tabled with Parliament in the months after each state election. However, the Commission believes it more appropriate to release this information prior to the expiry of the 90-day period in which the elections may be challenged. In accordance with section 205 of the *Electoral Act 2004*, an application to dispute these elections must be lodged by 9 August 2021 (Derwent) and 12 August 2021 (Windermere).

Yours sincerely



Mike Blake
Chair



Karen Frost
Member



Andrew Hawkey
Electoral Commissioner

20 July 2021

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Analysis of participation rates at the 2021 Legislative Council elections

Introduction

On Friday 26 March 2021, Her Excellency informed the Tasmanian Electoral Commissioner that, on the advice of the Premier, she had prorogued the Tasmanian Parliament and dissolved the House of Assembly to enable a general election to be held on Saturday 1 May 2021. This day was also polling day for the 2021 periodic Legislative Council elections, which would result in over 50 000 electors for the Legislative Council divisions of Derwent and Windermere needing to vote at two elections on Saturday 1 May¹.

This was the first occasion in Tasmanian Parliamentary history where the two Houses shared a polling day. It was also the first State election for the division of Clark (formally known as Denison) and the first elections for the divisions of Derwent and Windermere since the 2017 changes to the Legislative Council electoral boundaries.

The division of Windermere is fully located within the House of Assembly division of Bass. The division of Derwent flows across parts of the House of Assembly divisions of Lyons and Clark.

The Electoral Commissioner had stated publicly that he hoped that the shared polling day would increase the turnout at these Legislative Council elections as State elections traditionally have a 10-15% higher turnout than Legislative Council elections.

Unfortunately, the assumed increase in Legislative Council election turnout did not occur:

Derwent		Windermere	
Enrolment	26 618	Enrolment	27 342
Turnout	21 730 (81.64%)	Turnout	22 360 (81.78%)

Clark		Bass	
Enrolment	73 998	Enrolment	78 182
Turnout	67 131 (90.72%)	Turnout	70 896 (90.68%)

Lyons	
Enrolment	82 911
Turnout	75 565 (91.14%)

As the anticipated increase in turnout for the Legislative Council elections did not occur, the Commission supported an analysis of elector engagement to identify why the participation rates for the Derwent and Windermere elections were less than the rates for the Bass, Lyons and Clark elections. The following report outlines the outcomes from this analysis.

¹ While an election was also held for the division of Mersey, no ballot was required, with the incumbent re-elected unopposed.

Commission election preparations

While the two sets of elections may have shared polling day, many elements of these elections are different, creating numerous electoral administrative complexities.

Different close of roll dates

As the elections commenced on different dates, the election rolls for the two Parliamentary election events closed a week apart. Between the two roll closures² 2 533 electors updated their enrolled address on the State roll, a further 2 092 electors were added to the State roll and 253 electors were removed from the State roll.

Roll additions		Roll removals	
Newly enrolled	1 267 (18 year olds: 855)	Deaths	28
Re-enrolled	112	Removed from roll	7
Interstate arrivals	713	Moved interstate	218
New to LC divisions³	203	Left LC divisions	19

Due to the enrolment changes, separate electronic netbooks were needed at each issuing point to check elector names off each election roll.

Dual polling places on polling day

With a shared polling day, the Commission needed to decide whether each election would open separate polling places, or some or all polling places would issue ballot papers for both elections (dual polling places). From a voter perspective and a logistical perspective, the establishment of dual polling places was the only realistic option.

The Commission has sufficient materials and equipment to be able to undertake its largest event – a stand-alone State election. With a snap State election, even with assistance from other Australian electoral commissions, there was no ability to provide enough electronic netbooks and other election material to enable all polling places to be appointed as dual polling places.

The Commission made the decision that all polling places within the electoral boundaries of Derwent and Windermere be appointed as dual polling places and all other polling places across the state would be appointed as “House of Assembly only” polling places.

In addition to the usual workload for conducting a State election and periodic Legislative Council elections, the establishment of dual polling places required the development of new resources, training material, instructions, management tools and logistical arrangements.

In dual polling places, all issuing officers were trained to:

- First find and mark the elector on the netbook containing the rolls for the State election before issuing the relevant House of Assembly ballot paper; then
- search for and (if found) mark the elector on the netbook containing the rolls for the Legislative Council elections before issuing the relevant Legislative Council ballot paper.

² Close of roll dates: LC 22 March, State 30 March.

³ 87 Derwent and 267 Windermere electors updated their enrolled address whilst remaining in the division.

Appointed early voting polling places

The Commission also appointed all pre-poll centres across the state as dual polling places to enable electors away from their enrolled address to be able to vote in both elections. The commencement of pre-poll voting for the Legislative Council elections was delayed to coincide with the commencement of the early voting period for the State election.

Mobile polling teams allocated to the major Hobart and Launceston hospitals were also appointed as dual mobile teams.

Following discussions with the Solicitor-General, the Commission produced a postal vote application form, which could be used to issue a postal vote for both types of elections.

In summary the Commission appointed:

- 37 dual polling places (14 Derwent/Lyons, 5 Derwent/Clark, 18 Windermere/Bass)
- 226 “House of Assembly only” polling places (32 Bass, all 65 Braddon, 31 Clark, all 43 Franklin, 55 Lyons)
- 15 dual Tasmanian pre-poll centres and all other Australian state and territory electoral commissions as dual early voting centres
- 5 dual mobile teams
- 19 dual mobile polling locations (5 Derwent, 6 Windermere, 8 out of division hospitals)
- 14 “House of Assembly only” mobile teams
- 68 “House of Assembly only” mobile polling locations (17 Bass, all 16 Braddon, 12 Clark, all 10 Franklin, 13 Lyons).

Dual voting locations and services

Under these arrangements, Derwent and Windermere electors could vote at both elections by:

- applying for a postal vote,
- voting at any pre-poll centre across Tasmania or interstate,
- voting on polling day at a polling place within the Derwent or Windermere electoral boundaries, or
- voting at a mobile polling place within the Derwent or Windermere electoral boundaries or at a major Hobart or Launceston hospital.

TEC awareness campaign

The TEC produces a multi-platform election advertising campaign for all major elections.

Having two sets of elections with overlapping election periods and a shared polling day required additional planning regarding the awareness messaging and promotion undertaken by the TEC. Mindful to maintain the importance of both elections, the Commission ran parallel election awareness campaigns:

- Legislative Council — “Your Division. Your Vote. Your Voice.”
- House of Assembly — “Your vote is BIGGER than you think”

While each campaign had its own style, colours and flow, there were deliberate places where their messages were combined, such as in double page spreads in press advertising.

You may need to vote in two elections on 1 May.

Saturday 1 May is polling day for the State election.

In addition, if you're an elector for the Legislative Council division of **Derwent** or **Windermere**, you will also need to vote for a representative in the Legislative Council on the same day.

To be able to vote in both elections, either:

Vote on polling day

At a polling place located within the Derwent or Windermere divisions

or

Vote early

At any pre-poll centre across the state

or

Vote by post.

For more on your division and how to vote, go to tect.as.gov.au or call 1800 801 701.



2021 Legislative Council elections

The Candidates

Vote for your voice in the Legislative Council.

Using as compulsory

Division of Derwent

The following 3 candidates have been nominated for the election of the Member for Derwent in the Legislative Council.

DAVIS, Iain
Animal Justice Party
FARRELL, Craig
Australian Labor Party
SHANK, Ben
Liberal Party
Sally Isles, Returning Officer

Names of candidates have been listed in alphabetical order. The names on ballot papers are rotated and may not appear in this order.

Polling day – Saturday 1 May 2021

If you're not around on polling day, you'll have to vote early.

You can vote early at any of the following pre-poll centres on weekdays, between 8:30am-5:30pm, from Monday 12 April:

Division	Address	Address	Address
Granton	Granton Memorial Hall, 1 Lyell Hwy	Kingsford	Kingsford Community Hub, 7 Gosnawk Way
Hobart	Ground level, 44 Macquarie St	Launceston	175-177 Charles St
Svein	PKYC shed, Pembroke Park, Arthur St	Devonport	paranale arts centre, 145 Rokeby St
		Burnie	28 Cattley St

Additional pre-poll centres will be open 8:30am-5:30pm, from Monday 26 April: Glenorchy, Rosny, New Norfolk, George Town, Scottsdale, St Helens, Smithton and Queenstown.

All pre-poll centres will stay open until 6pm on Friday 30 April.

Check the TEC website next week or see the Saturday Mercury on 24 April for addresses.

Alternatively, you can apply for a postal vote. Don't delay, as postal vote applications close 4pm, Friday 23 April. Applications are available at any pre-poll office, at any TEC election office, on our website (www.tect.as.gov.au), or call 1800 801 701 and we'll send you one.

Your division. Your vote. Your voice.

Tasmanian Electoral Commission tect.as.gov.au | 1800 801 701

2021 House of Assembly elections

The Candidates

VOTING IS COMPULSORY

Division of Bass

LIBERAL PARTY	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY	TASMANIAN GREENS	SHOOTERS, FISHERS, FARMERS TAS	UNGROUPED
ALEXANDER, Lara COURTNEY, Sarah FERGUSON, Michael GUTWEN, Peter KEENE, Greg WOOD, Simon	FINLAY, James HINES, Adrian HOLBURN, Jennifer O'DWYNE, Michelle POWELL, Owen	WOODBURN, Sue	BAWPOINT, Michael HALL, Tom HUGHES, Janet LAYTON-BENNETT, Arne ROSSI, Cecily	HARVEY, Andrew RAMAGE, Roy	

Division of Braddon

SHOOTERS, FISHERS, FARMERS TAS	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	LIBERAL PARTY	TASMANIAN GREENS	UNGROUPED
JONES, Kevin SMITHSON, Brent	BROAD, Shane SIMPSON, Amanda DOOL, Anita KIDG, Justine RIPPON, Michelle	BROCKE, Adam ELLIS, Tony HENDRICKS, Laps JACKSON, Roger ROCKLUFF, Jeremy SHEAHAN, Jenny	BROCKE, Darren CORRY, Tim MILNE, Tammy MURPHY, Emily PARSONS, Phil	GARLAND, Craig HAMMILL, Paul MORGAN, Matthew

Division of Clark

TASMANIAN GREENS	GROUP B	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	FEDERATION PARTY TASMANIA	ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY	SHOOTERS, FISHERS, FARMERS TAS	GROUP G	LIBERAL PARTY	UNGROUPED
BARLEY, Vicki O'CONNOR, Casey SHELLY, Tim TAYLOR, Ben VEIT, Nathan	JOHNSON, Kristie	CARNE, Deb CLARK, Chris SHELLY, Tim HAGGAD, Ella MITCHELL, Sam	STINGER, Justin	WESTCOTT, Tim	BENNETT, Lorraine HARVEY, Andrew	HICOXY, Sue	ARCHER, Elise BEHRENDT, Simon EWAN, Jim LENNON, Harry OLIVE, Stephanie	DUTTA, Mike GEORGINO, Lisa WALKER, James WONG, Owen

Division of Franklin

SHOOTERS, FISHERS, FARMERS TAS	TASMANIAN GREENS	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY	LIBERAL PARTY	UNGROUPED
SMITHSON, Graham BYFIELD, Rebecca CARRIN, Robert	COOPER, Gordon DARROK, Mi WATERBURY, Phoenix VERSER, Bridget WOODRUFF, Beate	CLARKE, Allison HARRISON, Fabiano O'BRYEN, Steven STANDEN, Alison THEFTON, Debra	TANWER, Mark	ENDRIS, Ben PETERSON, Jacqui STREET, Neil WALKER, James YOUNG, Owen	FLANNERY, Francis SPINOLOPOLO, George

Division of Lyons

LIBERAL PARTY	TASMANIAN GREENS	SHOOTERS, FISHERS, FARMERS TAS	ANIMAL JUSTICE PARTY	AUSTRALIAN LABOR PARTY	UNGROUPED
BARNETT, Guy BOWEN, Susan CAMERON, Stephanie DRETTIN, Mark TUCKER, John	JOHNSTONE, Liz MILLAR, Glenn MORSE, Tim PHILLIPS, James SPENCER, Isabel	DE KLOOF, Carlo	MALCOLM, Sharon	LATT, Sean BUTLER, Jan CAFFREY, Gerard LAMBERT, Janet WHITE, Rebecca	LANE, George

Registered parties and groups are shown in ballot paper order, with ungrouped candidates in the list column. Candidates are listed in alphabetical order within their registered party, group or ungrouped column.

Your vote is BIGGER than you think.

Your division. Your vote. Your voice.

Tasmanian Electoral Commission tect.as.gov.au | 1800 801 701

You may need to vote in two elections today.

Today is polling day for the State election.

In addition, if you're an elector for the Legislative Council division of **Derwent** or **Windermere**, you will also need to vote for a representative in the Legislative Council today.

Vote today
8am-6pm Saturday 1 May

For more on your division and how to vote, go to tect.as.gov.au or call 1800 801 701.



Legislative Council Polling Places

To be able to vote at both the State and Legislative Council elections, go to one of these polling places.

Voting is compulsory

Polling places in Derwent

Division	Address
Austins Ferry	St Virg's College (Edmund Rice Hall), 195 Main Rd
Bethwell	Bethwell Town Hall, Alexander St
Bridgewater	Kingdon Civic Centre, 25 Green Point Rd
Chigwell	Chigwell Barn, 10 Buccann St
Clarendon	Austins Ferry Primary School, 96A Cambridge Rd
	Clarendon Girl Guides Hall, 3 Bonhill Rd
	Windermere Primary School, Mullooseur Avenue, 11, 2 Cadbury Rd
Dromedary	Dromedary (Millsdale) Community Hall, 14 Millvale Rd
Gaybrook	Gaybrook Primary School (Southerton St), 4 Tatemham Rd
Glenorchy	Glenorchy District High School, Near 7 Classroom, Admin Block, 820 Gordon River Rd
Granton	Granton Memorial Hall, 1 Lyell Hwy
Ladhams	Ladhams Community Hall, 51 Ladhams Rd
Magna	Magna CWA Building (near of Back River and Saddle Roads), Back River Rd
Miena	Miena Community Centre, 35-37 Cider Gum Rd
Moleworth	Moleworth Community Hall, 562 Moleworth Rd
New Norfolk	Fairview Primary School, 216 Bark Rd
Ouse	Ouse Centre Access Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
Westsway	Westsway Primary School, 969 Gordon River Rd

Polling places in Windermere

Division	Address
Dilton	Dilton War Memorial Hall, 308 John Lees Dr
George Town	George Town Memorial Hall, 49-70 Macquarie St
	George Town South Primary School, 48-70 Franklin St
Hillwood	Hillwood Memorial Hall, 260 Jolly Rd
Invermay	Invermay Primary School (also via Hobbsville St), 35-43 Mayne St
	St Fin's School, 247 Invermay Rd
Kanolda	Kanolda Hall, 126 Pipers River Rd
Ladhams	Ladhams Memorial Hall, 505 Gosnawk Rd
Lipjale	Lipjale Memorial Hall, 7495 Main Rd
Mowbray	Launceston Church Grammar School Cinclair Trust, Tower Building, Station St
Newnham	Launceston North United Church, 128 George Town Rd
Nunamara	Nunamara Hall, 19642 Tasmanian Hwy
Pipers River	Pipers River Fire Station, 76 School Rd
Ravenwood	Ravenwood Heights Primary School (opposite), 27 Pipers Forest Rd
Rochester	Brooks High School, 215 George Town Rd
St Leonards	St Leonards Primary School (Roberts Room, car park from Station Rd), 333-342 St Leonards Rd
Waverley	Waverley Primary School, c/Naraco St
Weymouth	Weymouth Hall, 88 Major St

♻️ Wheelchair access available | ♻️ Wheelchair access available with assistance.

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2021 House of Assembly elections

Polling Places

VOTING IS COMPULSORY

If you are going to be out of your division today, you can vote at any polling place within Tasmania.

Polling Places in the division of Clark

Division	Address
ANTONY FERRY	High School (Edmund Rice Hall), 195 Main Rd
AUSTINS FERRY	St Virg's College (Edmund Rice Hall), 195 Main Rd
BETHWELL	Bethwell Town Hall, Alexander St
BRIDGEMORE	Kingdon Civic Centre, 25 Green Point Rd
CHIGWELL	Chigwell Barn, 10 Buccann St
CLARENDON	Austins Ferry Primary School, 96A Cambridge Rd
CLARENDON	Clarendon Girl Guides Hall, 3 Bonhill Rd
COLLINSVILLE	Wendover Primary School (also via Hobbsville St), 35-43 Mayne St
CADSBURY	Wendover Primary School (also via Hobbsville St), 35-43 Mayne St
DROMEDARY	Dromedary (Millsdale) Community Hall, 14 Millvale Rd
GAYBROOK	Gaybrook Primary School (Southerton St), 4 Tatemham Rd
GLENORCHY	Glenorchy District High School, Near 7 Classroom, Admin Block, 820 Gordon River Rd
GRANTON	Granton Memorial Hall, 1 Lyell Hwy
LADHAM'S	Ladhams Community Hall, 51 Ladhams Rd
MAGNA	Magna CWA Building (near of Back River and Saddle Roads), Back River Rd
MIENA	Miena Community Centre, 35-37 Cider Gum Rd
MOLEWORTH	Moleworth Community Hall, 562 Moleworth Rd
NEW NORFOLK	Fairview Primary School, 216 Bark Rd
OUSE	Ouse Centre Access Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
WESTSWAY	Westsway Primary School, 969 Gordon River Rd

Polling Places in the division of Lyons

Division	Address
BARNETT	Gay Barnett Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
BOWEN	Bowen Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
CAMERON	Cameron Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
DRETTIN	Drettin Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
TUCKER	Tucker Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy

Polling Places in the division of Franklin

Division	Address
SMITHSON	Smithson Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
BYFIELD	Byfield Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
CARRIN	Carrin Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
WOODRUFF	Woodruff Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy

Polling Places in the division of Bass

Division	Address
ALEXANDER	Alexander Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
COURTNEY	Courtney Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
FERGUSON	Ferguson Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
GUTWEN	Gutwen Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
KEENE	Keene Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
WOOD	Wood Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy

Polling Places in the division of Braddon

Division	Address
JONES	Jones Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
SMITHSON	Smithson Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy

Polling Places in the division of Clark

Division	Address
BARLEY	Barley Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
O'CONNOR	O'Connor Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
SHELLY	Shelly Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
TAYLOR	Taylor Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
VEIT	Veit Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy

Polling Places in the division of Franklin

Division	Address
SMITHSON	Smithson Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
BYFIELD	Byfield Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
CARRIN	Carrin Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
WOODRUFF	Woodruff Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy

Polling Places in the division of Lyons

Division	Address
BARNETT	Gay Barnett Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
BOWEN	Bowen Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
CAMERON	Cameron Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
DRETTIN	Drettin Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy
TUCKER	Tucker Community Centre, 694 Lyell Hwy


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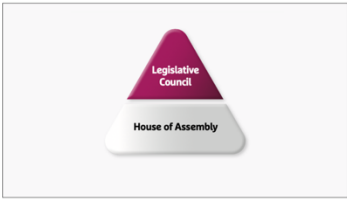
In the final week before polling day, the usual "Vote anywhere in Tasmania" advertisement was removed and replaced with a special 30-second television spot.

30" TVC - TWO ELECTIONS




Vision Open on a simple flat-topped triangle, with 'Sat 1 May' inside.

VO This Saturday the first of May



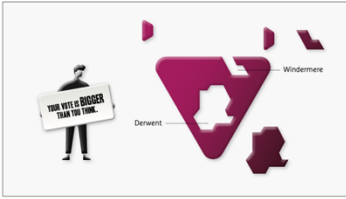
Vision The triangle flips over and the lower half turns grey.

VO is polling day for the House of Assembly, and for two Legislative Council divisions.




Vision It transitions into a giant ballot paper, as the figure is revealed.

VO All Tasmanian electors need to vote at a polling place on polling day, or vote early at a pre-poll centre.



Vision We transition to the Tassie map, with two divisions highlighted and labelled.

VO Derwent and Windermere electors will also be voting in the Legislative Council elections.



Vision The pieces come back together, then the map pivots to become the megaphone logo. The tag, URL, phone number and 'Bigger than you think' logo join it.

VO For more details, go to tec.tas.gov.au, or see Saturday's newspaper. Remember to vote on Saturday the first of May.

Additional messaging for the Legislative Council elections

A usual Legislative Council election awareness campaign has additional messaging elements, including an election brochure mailed to every elector. The 2021 election brochure included additional clear messages regarding where to vote for both elections:

On Saturday 1 May, you will need to vote in both the Legislative Council and State elections.

You are enrolled in the division of **Derwent**, so it's your time to vote for a member of the Legislative Council to represent you. It is also polling day for the State election.

This means, in any Derwent or Windermere polling place, you will be given **two ballot papers**; one for the Legislative Council and one for the House of Assembly.

Don't forget!
Polling day is on Saturday 1 May 2021 from 8am-6pm.
Voting is compulsory.

Tasmanian Electoral Commission
tec.tas.gov.au | 1800 801 701

Need to vote early?

If you expect to be unable to attend a polling place on polling day you can vote early at any pre-poll centre across Tasmania; apply for a postal vote, or vote early interstate.

Your closest pre-poll centres

- Granton** Granton Memorial Hall, 1 Lyell Hwy
Open 8.30am-5.30pm weekdays, Open until 6pm Friday 30 April.
- Hobart** Ground floor, 144 Macquarie St
Open 8.30am-5.30pm weekdays, Open until 6pm Friday 30 April.
- New Norfolk** New Norfolk War Memorial Hall, 1 Circle St
Open from Monday 26 April 8.30am-5.30pm all week and until 6pm Friday 30 April.

You can vote early at one of the 15 Tasmanian pre-poll centres, or in each state and territory capital city. You can find the addresses at tec.tas.gov.au or by calling 1800 801 701.

Apply for a postal vote

It's easy to apply for a postal vote – there is one form for both elections. Download and print an application form at tec.tas.gov.au/pva, collect one from Australia Post, or call 1800 801 701.

Don't delay, applications close at 4pm, Friday 23 April 2021.

Your division. Your vote. Your voice.

2021 Legislative Council Elections
Saturday 1 May

Derwent

Your candidates

Legislative Council candidates for Derwent are listed below in alphabetical order, however the names on ballot papers are rotated and may not be in this order.

DAVIS, Ivan	Animal Justice Party
FARRELL, Craig	Australian Labor Party
SHAW, Ben	Liberal Party

Voting on polling day

To be able to vote at both the State and Legislative Council elections, go to one of these polling places.

Polling places in Derwent

Austina Ferry	St Virgil's College (Edmund Rice Hall), 195 Main Rd	Granton	Granton Memorial Hall, 1 Lyell Hwy
Bathwell	Bothwell Town Hall, Alexander St	Lachlan	Lachlan Community Hall, 511 Lachlan Rd
Bridgewater	Brighton Civic Centre, 25 Green Point Rd	Magra	Magra CWA Building Gov of Back River and Saddle Road, Back River Rd
Chigwell	Chigwell Barrs, 10 Buccoon St	Miena	Miena Community Centre, 55-57 Cider Gum Rd
Claremont	Austina Ferry Primary School, 16A Cammeray Rd	Molesworth	Molesworth Community Hall, 560 Molesworth Rd
	Claremont Girl Guides Hall, 3 Boshill Rd	New Norfolk	Fairview Primary School, 211 Back River Rd
	Windermere Primary School (multipurpose room/Hall), 2 Coalbury Rd		New Norfolk Primary School (also via Church St), 8 Pioneer Ave
Dromedary	Dromedary (Middle) Community Hall, 14 Milvaine St	Ouse	Ouse Online Access Centre, 6947 Lyell Hwy
Gagebrook	Gagebrook Primary School (Ashburton St), 4 Tattersham Rd	Westerway	Westerway Primary School, 1619 Gordon River Rd
Glenora	Glenora District High School (Year 7 classroom, Admin Block), 620 Gordon River Rd		

Polling places in Windermere

Dilston	Dilston War Memorial Hall, 308 John Lees Dr	Mowbray	Launceston Church Grammar School (Glenis Trust Tower Building), Rufus St
George Town	George Town Memorial Hall, 29-47 Macquarie St	Newnham	Launceston North Uniting Church, 128 George Town Rd
	George Town South Primary School, 48-70 Franklin St	Nunamarra	Nunamarra Hall, 39481 Tasman Hwy
Hillwood	Hillwood Memorial Hall, 280 Jetty Rd	Pipers River	Pipers River Fire Station, 76 School Rd
Invermay	Invermay Primary School (also via Holbrook St), 35-43 Mayes St	Ravenswood	Ravenswood Heights Primary School (Gymnasium), 27 Prosser Forest Rd
	St Finn Barr's School, 247 Invermay Rd	Rocherlea	Brooks High School, 25 George Town Rd
Karoola	Karoola Hall, 126 Pipers River Rd	St Leonards	St Leonards Primary School (Roberts Room, car park from Station Rd), 330-342 St Leonards Rd
Lebrina	Lebrina Memorial Hall, 905 Galconda Rd	Waverley	Waverley Primary School, 6 Narso St
Lilydale	Lilydale Memorial Hall, 1949 Main Rd	Weymouth	Weymouth Hall, 18 Major St

Analysis of elector engagement

As stated in the introduction of this report, the participation rates for the Legislative Council elections (Derwent and Windermere) were around 9% lower than the rates for the associated House of Assembly division elections (Clark, Lyons and Bass). With the lower turnout and public reports of some Derwent and Windermere electors attending “House of Assembly only” polling places, the Commission undertook a special analysis of the voting locations of all Derwent and Windermere electors⁴. The following is a breakdown for where 2021 Legislative Council election electors were recorded as participating in these elections:

	Derwent	Windermere	Notes
Enrolment at LC roll close	26 618	27 342	
Left the division before State roll close	- 120	- 110	Enrolment changes
Still In LC division at State roll close	26 498	27 232	
Marked as voted at LC election ⁵	- 21 673	- 22 263	
Not marked as voted at LC election	4 825	4 969	
Not marked off at either election	- 2 557	- 2 747	
Did not return their postal vote	- 241	- 268	
Marked as voted only at State election	2 027	1 954	

Almost 4 000 Derwent and Windermere electors appear to have voted at the State election but not at the Legislative Council elections (“State only” voters).

Two types of disenfranchisement

These “State only” voters can be separated into two groups:

- Electors who did not vote at a dual voting location or use a dual voting service, and
- Electors who voted at a dual voting location/used a dual voting service but were not marked off the Legislative Council election roll.

Group 1 – “House of Assembly only” polling places

Over 80% of “State only” voters attended a polling place on polling day, including attending over 150 “House of Assembly only” polling places spread across the state including King, Flinders and Bruny Islands. While the most frequently visited “House of Assembly only” polling places were close to the Derwent and Windermere electoral boundaries, there were considerable numbers also recorded at more distant localities such as Sorell, Riverside and Huonville (see Appendix A for more details).

⁴ The analysis linked electors across the two elections and the issuing point data where the elector voted.

⁵ These figures do not match the number of votes cast because the table specifically relates to where electors are marked off election rolls. These figures do not include provisional voters reinstated on the roll, any multiple voters or any electors provided a ballot paper but inadvertently not marked off the election roll.

As stated, the Commission directly mailed all Derwent and Windermere electors details of all dual polling places and other dual voting services. This information was also provided in press advertising and on the TEC website. Therefore, the Commission holds the view that this type of elector disenfranchisement is similar in nature to the elector that arrives at a polling place after the close of the poll and is unable to vote or the elector who inadvertently casts an informal ballot. While these are always unfortunate, disenfranchisement of Group 1 electors has not occurred due to lack of information, lack of reasonable access or from staff error.

The following table provides a summary of where Group 1 electors voted at the State election:

House of Assembly only polling places (PP)	Derwent		Windermere	
	Electors	PPs	Electors	PPs
Mobile polling locations	87		62	
Polling day:				
- Bass	28	16	1 191	32
- Braddon	34	23	105	32
- Clark	699	29	52	22
- Franklin	314	39	35	21
- Lyons	521	47	278	45
Total	1 683	154	1 723	152

Group 2 – Electoral staff errors

All Derwent and Windermere electors who voted at a dual polling place, or used a dual voting service should have been issued a Legislative Council ballot paper. These (Group 2) electors appear to have been disenfranchised due to electoral staff error. It may be that some of these electors went to a voting screen with only their House ballot paper, choosing not to vote at the Legislative Council election or that they were issued a Council ballot paper but inadvertently not marked off the Legislative Council election roll⁶. However, for this analysis it has been assumed that all were disenfranchised due to staff administrative error. The following table provides a summary of where administrative errors occurred:

Voting service used for State election	Administrative errors	
	Derwent	Windermere
Voted polling day		
– Derwent polling place	69	13
– Windermere polling place	3	76
Pre-poll vote ⁷	179	73
Postal vote	66	53
Mobile polling vote (dual mobile team)	6	6
Provisional vote	21	10
Total	344	231

⁶ Polling place returns show 27 Derwent and 51 Windermere additional ballot papers issued above the number of electors marked off election rolls.

⁷ A further breakdown of the high pre-poll errors is provided in Appendix B.

Outcome of the analysis

The conduct of two highly overlapping sets of Parliamentary elections created significant new challenges for the Tasmanian Electoral Commission – none more so than providing services and information that ensured the 50 000 impacted Tasmanian electors could meet their civic responsibility of voting in both elections.

The establishment of dual voting services was designed and rolled out in a very short period and the Commission holds the view that, in the broader sense, these elections were successfully run. However, the lower turn out of electors at the Legislative Council election in comparison to the turn out for the State election was a concern for the Commission.

The Commission undertook an analysis of the voting engagement of all Derwent and Windermere electors to identify the factors for the difference in turnout. In summary, the analysis has shown:

- 1 683 Derwent and 1 723 Windermere electors attended a “House of Assembly only” polling place or mobile polling location and therefore voted only at the State election.
- 344 Derwent and 231 Windermere electors voted at a dual polling place or used a dual voting service but appear to have only been issued a House of Assembly ballot paper because of staff (administrative) error.

While it fully acknowledges the additional complexity and possible confusion for Derwent and Windermere electors flowing from the shared polling day for the 2021 elections, the Commission is satisfied that:

- suitable accessibility to dual voting services was provided within the limitations of the election timeframe and resources available, and
- reasonable election awareness information of the dual voting options was available to all Derwent and Windermere electors.

When considering this analysis and the impact of its findings in relation to the integrity of the 2021 Legislative Council elections, the Commission is of the view that:

- the disenfranchisement of Windermere and Derwent electors who attended a “House of Assembly only” polling place (Group 1), is due to individual error considered similar to arriving at a polling place after the close of poll or inadvertently casting an informal vote, which, from the Commission’s perspective, does not impact the integrity of the election.
- the disenfranchisement of Windermere and Derwent electors due to electoral staff error (Group 2), is of concern regarding the integrity of the election.

The Commission unreservedly apologises to the electors disenfranchised by administrative error. The secondary concern for the Commission is whether the magnitude of this error could have changed the result of the election.

Impact on the election result

Under section 206 of the *Electoral Act 2004*, the Commission is entitled (along with others) to make an application to dispute a Tasmanian Parliamentary election.

For the Commission to consider challenging an election, it would need to come to the view that a key area of election administration had failed or that elector accessibility to information or voting services had been hindered to the extent that sufficient electors were disenfranchised from the electoral process to impact the election outcome.

Under section 238 of the Act:

An election may not be declared void merely on account of:

...

(c) an omission or error by the Commission, the Commissioner, a returning officer or an election official which in the opinion of the Supreme Court did not affect the result of the election.

In accordance with the Act, the Commission has a responsibility to consider if the information provided in the analysis could possibly affect the result of the 2021 Legislative Council elections, and whether it then has a duty to lodge a challenge to the 2021 Legislative Council elections.

The Commission is of the view:

- no area of administration failed at these elections.
- electors identified in Group 1 were not disenfranchised due to lack of services or information.
- electors identified in Group 2 were disenfranchised due to electoral administrative error and therefore have been analysed further as to its impact on the election.

Impact of Group 2 errors on the Derwent election

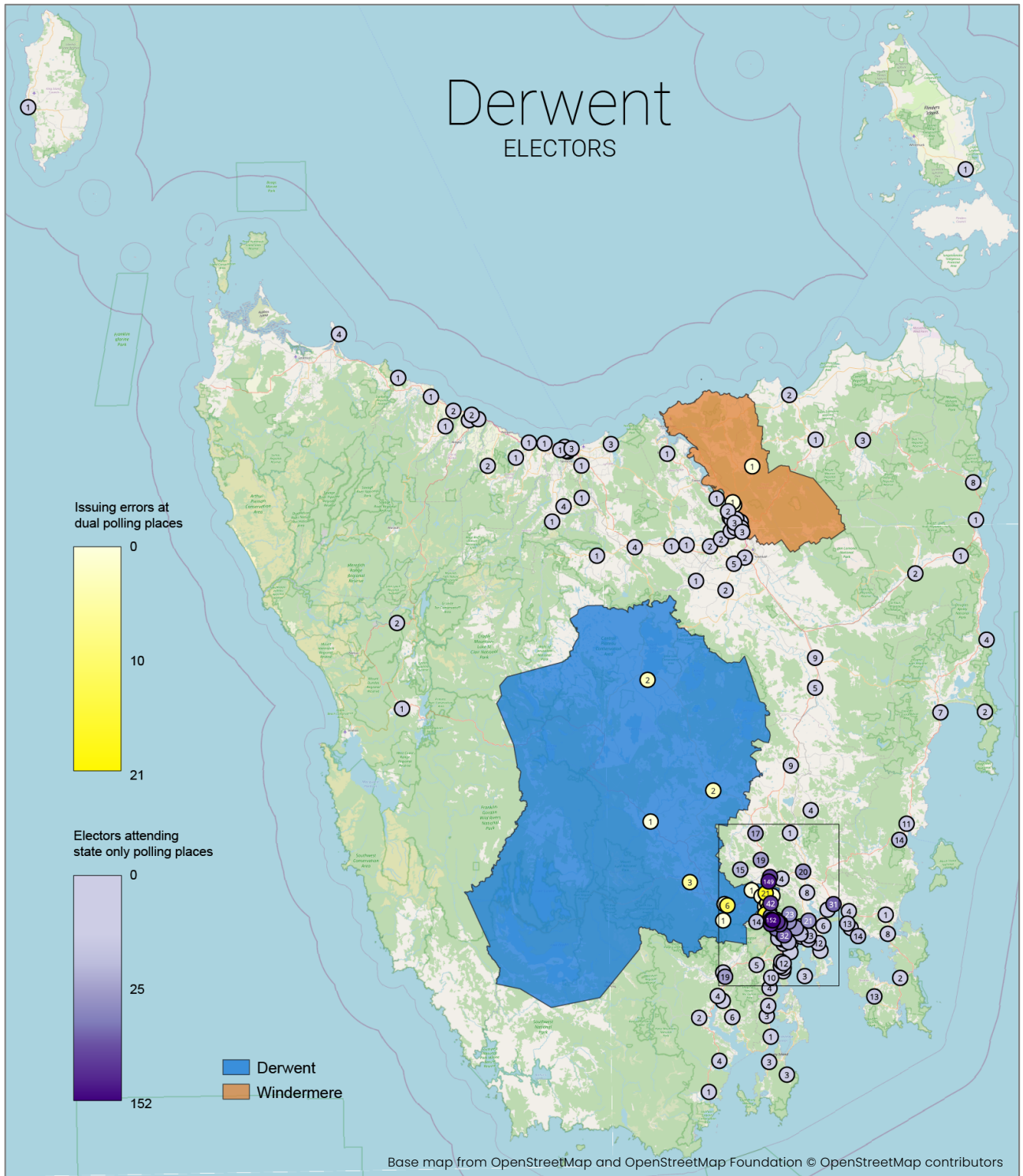
The closest critical point in the Derwent election was after count 2. At this point of the election, Craig Farrell (11 415) was leading Ben Shaw (9 098) by 2 317 votes. As the difference between these two candidates is greater than the number of electors disenfranchised due to administrative errors (344), the Commission holds the view that the number of administrative errors were not sufficient to affect the outcome of the Derwent election.

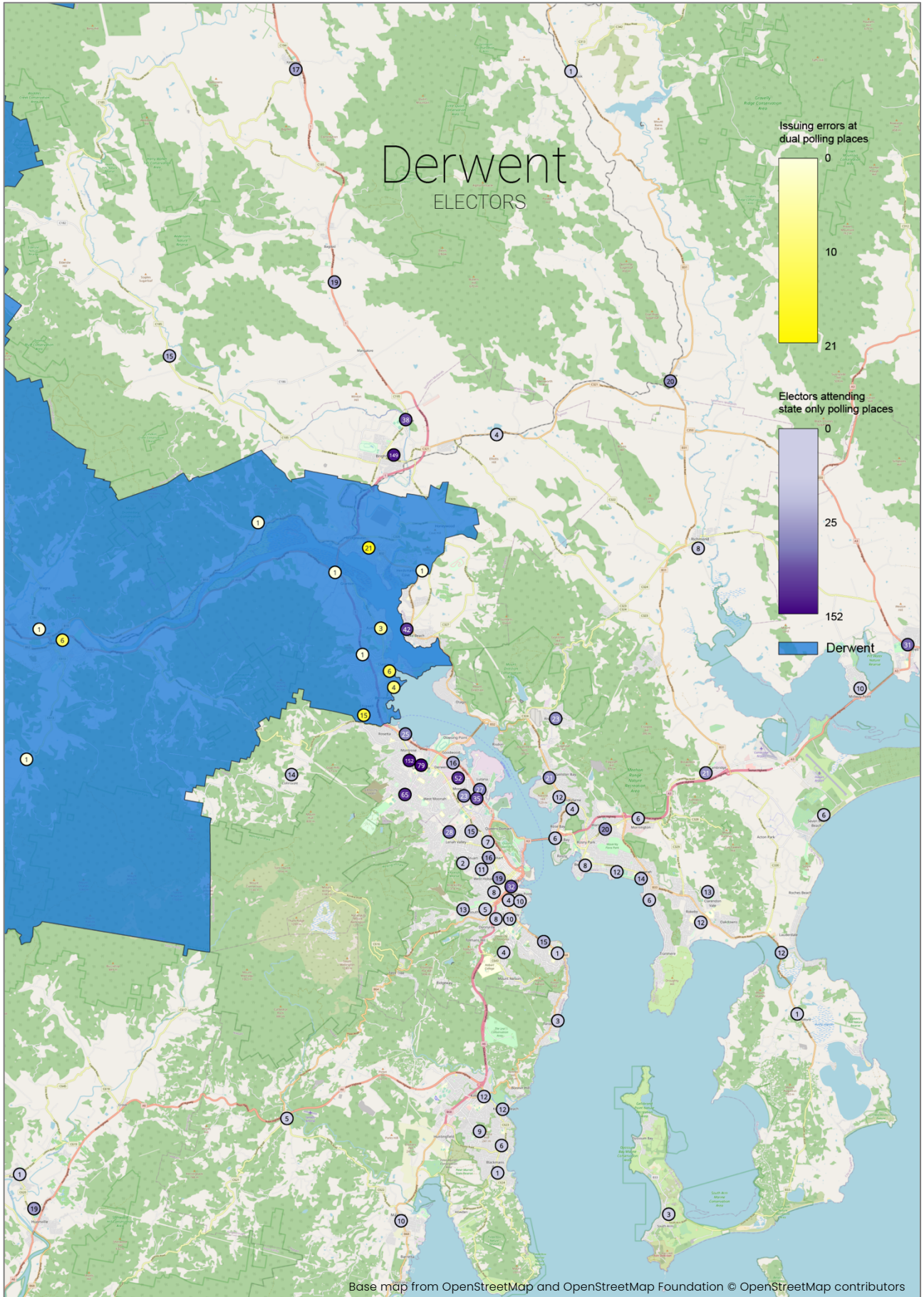
Impact of Group 2 errors on the Windermere election

The closest critical point in the Windermere election was after count 3. At this point of the election, Will Smith (6 117) was trailing Geoff Lyons (6 445) by 328 votes. As the difference between these two candidates is greater than the number of electors disenfranchised due to administrative errors (231), the Commission holds the view that the number of administrative errors were not sufficient to affect the outcome of the Windermere election.

Therefore, the Commission holds the view that as the number of administrative errors were not sufficient to affect results, it will not challenge either election.

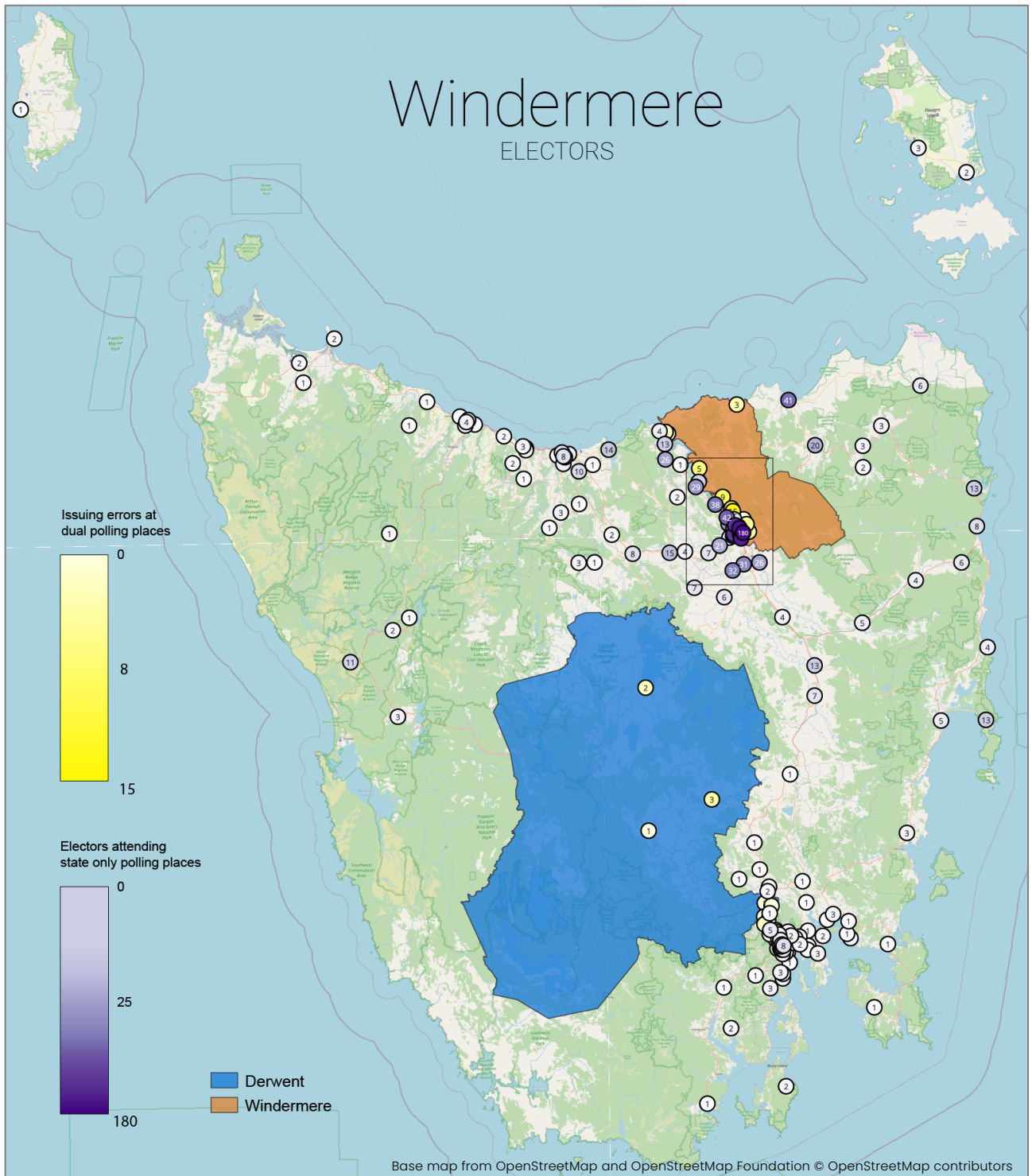
Appendix A: Maps of "State only voters" on polling day

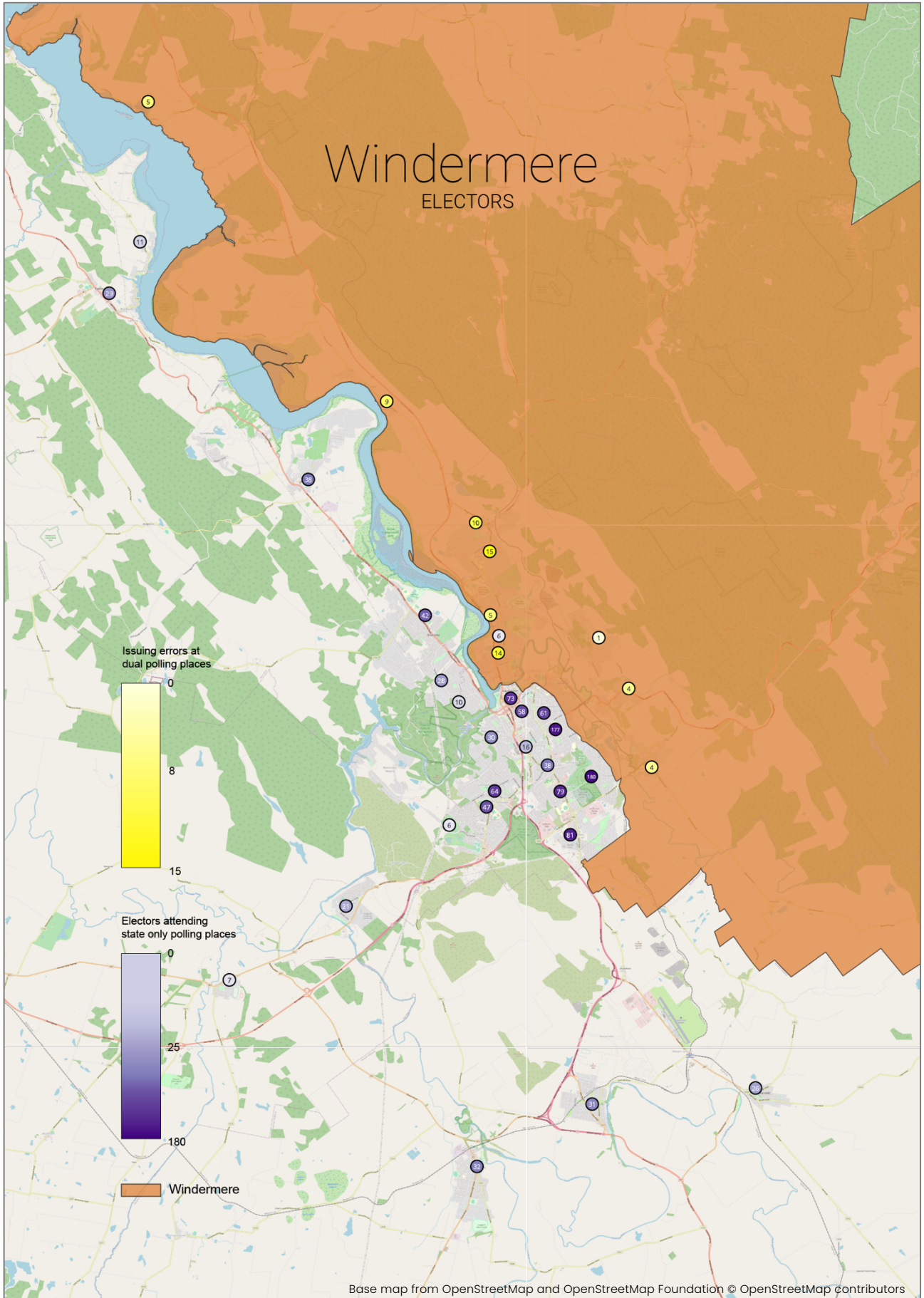




Windermere

ELECTORS





Appendix B: Further analysis of administrative errors at pre-poll centres

Within LC electoral division boundaries

Pre-poll centre	Derwent errors	Windermere errors	LC BPs issued	(%)	HoA BPs issued	(%)
George Town	1	3	1 234	0.32	1 405	0.28
Granton	26	1	3 378	0.79	5 454	0.50
New Norfolk	9	0	998	0.89	1 096	0.82
Total	36	4	5 610	0.71	7 955	0.50

Outside LC electoral division boundaries

Pre-poll centre	Derwent errors	Windermere errors	LC BPs issued	(%)	HoA BPs issued	(%)
Launceston	10	62	3073	2.29	13 188	0.55
Scottsdale	0	2	30	6.25	1 263	0.16
Devonport	1	2	21	12.50	8 289	0.04
Burnie	0	0	15	0.00	6 773	0.00
Smithton	0	0	3	0.00	1 362	0.00
Queenstown	1	0	2	33.33	519	0.19
Glenorchy ⁸	78	2	631	11.25	5 077	1.58
Hobart	40	0	227	14.98	7 855	0.51
Kingston	2	0	30	6.25	7 203	0.03
Rosny	4	0	27	12.90	4 632	0.09
Sorell	4	0	26	13.33	3 943	0.10
St Helens	3	1	15	21.05	1 599	0.25
Total	143	69	4 100	4.92	61 703	0.34
Combined Total	179	73	9 710	2.53	69 658	0.36

⁸ An error in the issuing process at the Glenorchy pre-poll centre was identified during the early voting period and identified electors were contacted.